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சுவசிரிபாய
SUWASIRIPAYA

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Date) 19/11/2018

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சுகாதார, போசணை மற்றும் சுதேச வைத்திய அமைச்சு
Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine

All Provincial Directors of Health Services

All Regional Directors of Health Services

All Heads of Institutions

Full blood Count test as screening method for anaemia during Pregnancy

According to Medical Research Institute survey (2015), in Sri Lanka, prevalence of anaemia among pregnant women was 31.8% and of them only 9.9% has been identified as having iron deficiency anaemia. WHO recommends full blood count testing is the recommended method for diagnosing anaemia in pregnancy (WHO 2016) which will be helpful to identify the need of further investigations to find out the other causes of anaemia eg: Low MCV can suspect Thalassemia

Therefore, considering new evidence and the feedback received from the district level representatives with the aim of improving the quality of screening of anaemia, Technical Advisory Committee Maternal Health and Family Planning recommends FBC as first line screening test during pregnancy (according to circular 02-85/2014 dated 2014/05/22)

Blood samples, should be collected in EDTA tubes at the field clinic and, stored at 4 – 8° degrees and transported as soon as possible (within 24 hrs) to the hospital where the test is performed.

In order to streamline the process and to make the service delivery more efficient, MOMCH of the district together with Medical Officers of Health and Heads of Institutions should develop a suitable plan for the district and approved by Regional Director of Health Services for implementation of this recommendations. Suitable hospital laboratory facilities in the district should be identified and utilized for these investigations.

Relevant documentations should be maintained on performing these investigations from the time of collection of samples and till receiving the results eg: H512

Please refer letters bearing Letter No D/LS/LAW/01/2016 (dated 2016/12/10 & 2016/09/21) regarding investigations done in government institutions.

Your cooperation in this regard is highly appreciated.

Thank you



Actg. Director - Maternal and Child Health
Services

Signed by
Dr. H. Beneragama
Deputy Director General Lab

Cc:

Director General of Health Services

Deputy Director General / Public Health Services II

Deputy Director General / Medical Services I

Deputy Director General / Medical Services II

Director / Medical Supplies Division

CCP – Province..... to coordinate

CCP – District to coordinate

MOMCH ...- f.n.a...

President – Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians & Gyneacologists

President - Sri Lanka College of Chemical Pathologist

President - Sri Lanka College of Community Physicians

President – Sri Lanka College of Heamatologist